

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - (a) reacting a grafted microfine polymer powder with a cyclodextrin to form a cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer, the microfine polymer powder comprising particles such that 80% or more of the particles range in size from about 10 up to about 500 microns;
and
 - (b) dispersing the cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer in a base polymer.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the base polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polystyrene, and mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and copolymers of ethylene and propylene.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein from about 1 to about 30 percent by weight of the cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer is dispersed in from about 99 to about 70 percent by weight of the base polymer.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the grafted microfine polymer powder is a microfine polymer onto which an ethylenically unsaturated monomer has been grafted.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the ethylenically unsaturated monomer is selected from the group consisting of unsaturated carboxylic acids, unsaturated carboxylic acid derivatives, unsaturated alkoxy silanes, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the ethylenically unsaturated monomer is maleic anhydride.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the grafted microfine polymer powder is made by a process comprising:

(a) heating a mixture comprising a carboxylic acid-functionalized polyolefin, a nonionic surfactant, and a polar liquid medium containing at least 50 wt. % water to a temperature above the melting point of the polyolefin to form a dispersion of liquified polyolefin in the polar liquid medium; and

(b) cooling the dispersion below the melting point of the polyolefin to produce a carboxylic acid-functionalized polyolefin powder.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the weight ratio of polar liquid medium to grafted polyolefin is from 1:1 to 9:1 and the weight ratio of nonionic surfactant to grafted polyolefin is from 0.05:1 to 5:1.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the grafted polyolefin is polyethylene grafted with from about 0.5 to about 5 wt. % maleic anhydride, and the nonionic surfactant is a block copolymer of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the grafted polyethylene is high density polyethylene (HDPE) or linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) grafted with from about 1 to about 4 wt. % maleic anhydride.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the grafted HDPE and LLDPE have a melt index (MI) from 5 to 2000 g/10 min.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the nonionic surfactant contains at least 50 wt. % of ethylene oxide recurring units and has a number average molecular weight of at least 4500.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cyclodextrin is a cyclodextrin inclusion complex.

16. (Original) A dispersed cyclodextrin inclusion complex made by the method of claim 15.

17. (Currently Amended) A dispersed cyclodextrin-containing polymer made by a method comprising:

(a) reacting a grafted microfine polymer powder with a cyclodextrin inclusion complex to form a cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer, the microfine polymer powder comprising particles such that 80% or more of the particles range in size from about 10 up to about 500 microns; and

(b) dispersing the cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer in a base polymer.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the base polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polystyrene, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and copolymers of ethylene and propylene.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein from about 1 to about 30 percent by weight of the cyclodextrin-attached grafted polymer is dispersed in from about 99 to about 70 percent by weight of the base polymer.

21. (Cancelled).